

King, Jr., in the Pythian Theatre in 2010. I have seen firsthand how the King Arts Complex has helped revitalize the community by offering cultural and educational activities for local youth through programs that include dance, theatre, music, and literary arts.

The King Arts Complex is an asset to central Ohio and I congratulate everyone who was involved in making its first 25 years a success.

#### TRIBUTE TO ROBERT RICH

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to my dear friend and lifelong Connecticut resident and business owner, Bob Rich, who passed away this past November.

Born in Stamford, Mr. Rich graduated from Stamford High School in 1944 and from Princeton in 1948. He returned to Connecticut to eventually take over his father's business, the F.D. Rich Company, which had been founded in 1920. For more than 60 years, he and his brother, Frank D. Rich, Jr., grew their father's construction company into one of our Nation's foremost real estate development firms. Their family history in construction and real estate development became an important part of our national history of economic growth.

Under Mr. Rich's leadership, the F.D. Rich Company built innovative buildings where there was a great need both in Stamford, CT, and across the Nation—from shopping centers and office buildings to schools, hospitals, and hotels. In 1958 the F.D. Rich Company made its mark on our Nation's Capital when it completed the aircraft hangars for Air Force One at Andrews Air Force Base. To this day, F.D. Rich continues to create interesting and functional urban and suburban buildings that add to our country's landscape.

Since his death, Mr. Rich has been deservedly memorialized for playing a significant role in revitalizing the city of Stamford between 1970 and 2000. The New York Times wrote that he "transform[ed] Stamford from a fading industrial town suffering from severe urban blight to a thriving city which has emerged as an important center for commerce, culture, education and recreation." Mr. Rich led the creation of countless buildings, including an addition to the Stamford Hospital in 1967, One Landmark Square in 1973, and the Rich Forum in 1992, which continues to house the city's center for the arts.

The University of Connecticut and the Rich family are also closely connected. In 1934 Mr. Rich's father oversaw the construction of the Wilbur Cross Library at UConn's Storrs campus. When UConn opened its downtown Stamford campus, the Riches helped build the Rich Concourse, which to this day serves as a central meeting place on campus.

In addition to Bob Rich's community involvement through the F.D. Rich Company and at UConn, he was in-

involved in numerous national and local organizations including the Boys and Girls Club of Stamford, the Regional Plan Association, and Stamford's State Street Debating Society. He and his family founded the Rich Foundation, which continues to serve nonprofit organizations, primarily in Fairfield County, enriching Connecticut's arts, education, health care, and social services.

Bob was beloved by family and friends throughout his life, and he will be remembered by countless residents who live and make memories in the spaces he built. I invite my colleagues to pay tribute to a man who forever changed the Stamford skyline and improved the community.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### REMEMBERING LAVONE PAIRE DAVIS

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Lavone "Pepper" Paire Davis, the baseball star and pioneer in women's professional sports who died in Los Angeles last month at age 88. Ms. Paire Davis was one of the models for Dottie Hinson, the immortal Geena Davis character in the hit film "A League of Their Own," and she was a role model for millions of women and girls across the country.

Lavone Paire was born in Los Angeles and grew up playing baseball with her older brother Joe on the streets of West L.A. By age 9, she was playing for an amateur team in Santa Monica and later she and her good friend Faye Dancer played together on a girls softball team known as the Dr. Peppers.

In 1944, Lavone was working as a shipyard welder and taking classes at UCLA when she and Faye were recruited to join the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League, AAGPBL, which recently had been launched by Chicago Cubs owner Philip K. Wrigley and other major league owners to help maintain fan interest while many major league players were away at war.

Pepper Paire quickly distinguished herself as an outstanding defensive catcher who could also play shortstop and third base, pitch when needed, and drive in runs in clutch situations. She also cowrote "Victory Song," the AAGPBL's anthem, which was later featured in "A League of Their Own." She helped the Racine Belles win the league championship in 1946 and was named to the AAGPBL all-star team in 1948.

In 1953, Pepper left baseball to marry Robert Davis, start a family, and establish an electronics business with her friend Faye Dancer. But "A League of Their Own" brought Ms. Paire Davis back in the public eye. A popular speaker, she used her renewed fame to promote women's professional sports and urge girls to fulfill their athletic

dreams. In 2009 she published "Dirt in the Skirt," a book about her adventures in the AAGPBL.

Lavone Paire Davis was a true inspiration both on and off the baseball diamond. On behalf of the people of California, I send my gratitude and condolences to her brother Joe, sons William and Rob, daughter Susan Gardner, four grandchildren, and great-grandson. •

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 307) to reauthorize certain programs under the Public Health Service Act and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to public health security and all-hazards preparedness and response, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 1928a, and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House to the United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly: Mr. POE of Texas, Vice Chair, Mr. SHIMKUS of Illinois, Mr. JEFF MILLER of Florida, Mr. GUTHRIE of Kentucky, Mr. MARINO of Pennsylvania, and Mr. COTTON of Arkansas.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 3166(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-239), the Minority Leader appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Congressional Advisory Panel on the Governance of the Nuclear Security Enterprise: Ellen Tauscher of Washington, DC.

The message further announced that pursuant to 44 U.S.C. 2702, the Minority Leader appoints the following member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress: Mr. John A. Lawrence of Washington, DC.

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY) announced that on March 4, 2013, he had signed the following enrolled bill, previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

S. 47. An act to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994.

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 3:57 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 307. An act to reauthorize certain programs under the Public Health Service Act and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to public health security and all-hazards preparedness and response, and for other purposes.